IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Shuji SAITOH et al.

Serial Number: 09/147,052

Filed: April 5, 1999

Group Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: HINES, J.

For: NOVEL FUSED PROTEIN, GENE THEREFOR, RECOMBINANT VECTOR,

RECOMBINANT VIRUS, AND ITS USE

RECEIVED

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

JAN 03 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2500

Honorable Commissioner of Patents Washington, D. C. 20231

December 29, 2000

Sir:

Applicants hereby petition the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend the time for response to the Office Action mailed August 31, 2000, for one month from November 30, 2000 to December 30, 2000.

Attached hereto is a check in which the amount of \$110.00 to cover the extension fee is included. In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, it is requested that an appropriate extension of time be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340, in addition to any other fees which may now be due with respect to this paper. Two extra copies of this paper are enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN, HATTORI, McLELAND & NAUGHTON

01/03/2001 SLUANG1 00000004 09147052

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110.00 OP

By:

Nicolas E. Seckel

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NES:kah

Enclosures: Check in the amount of \$110.00